VIDEO LINK

http://youtu.be/3K5afZ2NRJ0

GOAL SUMMARY

The goal of this session is to help teens see that friendships are essential to living the Christian life. We are communal beings and we need good friends to help us along the journey of life. A good friend does not just play video games with us or go shopping with us; they challenge us to grow in the spiritual life, laugh with us, and help us up when we fall.

VIDEO SUMMARY

This video focuses on the gift of friendship and the important gift this is from God in helping us stay faithful to God.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- 1. How does developing good friendships help us stay faithful to God?
- 2. How did Jesus show us that friendships are important in our lives?
- 3. Why would a good friendship fall under the category of a 'spiritual discipline'?
- 4. Chris talked about people who fall from grace and have their mistakes played out in the media. A good friend may have helped saved that person from their fall. How?
- 5. Friendships are not a luxury, but are actually essential in our lives. Consider your friends. What can you do to ensure you have friends who will help you grow to love God more fully and better live the Christian life?

SEND

We see the importance of friendships in the life of Jesus Christ. He himself had a solid, steady group of friends; even within his disciples, he had best friends. We should strive to have a good group of friends who will be there with us when things are going well as well as when things fall apart. God never leaves a prayer unanswered. Let's pray for friends who will help us grow closer to God, by praying to become that friend to others.

Pray together the Prayer for True Friendship:

Jesus, loving companion of Your children, You have extended Your friendship to all. You opened Your arms without discrimination, offering Your warmth to those seeking comfort. Endow me with the virtue of such a friendship, to know, love, and trust all on an equal basis; to share my patronizing without favoritism, and to be pleasant towards the destitute. Fashion my heart to reflect Your qualities, those befitting of a cordial association. Jesus, You showed me the way to true friendship: Blessed is Your amazing and warm Person!